

Record of Decision is the document signed by a Deciding Officer recording a decision that was preceded by preparation of an environmental impact statement (40 CFR 1505.2).

Reviewing Officer is the line officer one administrative level higher than the Deciding Officer or, in the case of a discretionary review, one level higher than the line officer who issued a first-level appeal decision.

[54 FR 3357, Jan. 23, 1989; 54 FR 13807, Apr. 5, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 7895, Mar. 6, 1990; 58 FR 58915, Nov. 4, 1993]

§ 217.3 Decisions subject to appeal.

(a) The following decisions are subject to appeal under this part:

(1) Decisions to approve, amend, or revise a National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan including project or activity decisions for which environmental effects have been analyzed and disclosed within a final EIS and documented in a Record of Decision including approval, significant amendments, or revisions of a land and resource management plan.

(2) Decisions to approve or amend a regional guide prepared pursuant to 36 CFR part 219 and documented in a Decision Notice or Record of Decision are subject to appeal under this part, except as provided in § 217.4.

(b) Decisions as defined in paragraph (a) of this section and documented in a Decision Notice or a Record of Decision that are made by a subordinate Forest Service staff officer acting within delegated authority are considered to be decisions of the Forest Service line officer.

[58 FR 58915, Nov. 4, 1993]

§ 217.4 Decisions not subject to appeal.

The following decisions are not subject to appeal under this part.

(a) Decisions on projects or activities implementing National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans including project decisions that include a non-significant amendment to a National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

(b) Preliminary planning decisions or preliminary decisions as to National Environmental Policy Act or National Forest Management Act processes

made prior to release of final plans, guides, and environmental documents.

(c) Recommendations of Forest Service line officers to higher ranking Forest Service or Departmental officers or to other entities having final authority to implement the recommendations in question, such as wilderness and wild and scenic river recommendations.

[58 FR 58915, Nov. 4, 1993]

§ 217.5 Giving notice of decisions subject to appeal.

(a) For decisions subject to appeal under this part, Deciding Officers shall promptly mail the appropriate decision document (§ 217.3(a)(1)) to those who, in writing, have requested it, and to those who are known to have participated in the decisionmaking process.

(b) The Deciding Officer shall also give notice of decisions appealable under this part as follows:

(1) For all initial decisions of the Chief, notice shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(2) For all other decisions, legal notice of the decision shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation identified pursuant to the requirements of paragraph (d) of this section. Deciding Officers may, at their discretion, also publish notice of their decisions in additional newspapers. Where a Deciding Officer elects to publish such additional notices, they shall be published after an initial legal notice has been published in the principal newspaper identified in the biannual FEDERAL REGISTER notice provided for in paragraph (d) of this section. Any such additional newspaper notices shall indicate the date that the appeal period ends, which shall be calculated based on the date of publication of the initial notice in the principal newspaper identified in the biannual FEDERAL REGISTER notice.

(c) All notices published pursuant to this section shall include a concise description of the decision made by title or subject matter, the date of the decision, the name and title of the official making the decision, and information on how to obtain a copy of the decision, and shall specify that the appeal period begins the day following the notice's publication as provided for in § 217.8(b)(1).